## VERSION OF SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS

Claims 50 through 67 are new.

44. (Amended) An x-ray technique-based [noninstrusive] nonintrusive inspection apparatus (8) which includes:

a base frame (38);

tunneling (12, 14, 16) mounted to the base frame and having a first end (42) and a second end (44) opposing the first end;

an x-ray source [(34)] (150) which, when operated, creates radiation within the tunneling;

paneling (510) located around the tunneling and the x-ray source so that the paneling and the base frame jointly define a housing (512) around the tunneling and the x-ray source, the housing having an entry aperture (514) in proximity to the first end, and an exit aperture (515) in proximity to the second end of the tunneling, and having an air inlet opening (522); and

a fan (538) positioned to draw air through the air inlet opening into the housing, the housing being formed, the entry aperture sealing with the first end of the tunneling to an extent sufficient, and the exit aperture sealing with the second end of the tunneling to an extent sufficient so that the confines of the housing are at a higher pressure than externally of the housing when the fan draws air into the housing.

45. (Amended) An x-ray technique-based [noninstrusive] nonintrusive inspection apparatus (8) which includes:

a support frame (10);

a CT scanner subsystem (38) rotatably mounted to the frame, the CT scanner subsystem having a gantry (148) defining at least one air passage (542), and a radiator (534) mounted to the gantry;

a plenum (532) which is mounted to the frame so that the gantry rotates relative to the plenum, the plenum and the gantry jointly defining a confined volume; and

a fan (538), wherein, when the fan is operated, air is directed from the fan into the confined volume, from the confined volume into the air passage, and from the air passage through the radiator.